

# Croydon Council – Fact Sheet for residents applying for a Disabled Persons Freedom Pass

## Eligibility Criteria – Refused a Licence to drive

### **NOTE – this category is for Freedom Pass applications only**

Eligibility under this criterion is given if it can be shown that, were you to apply, you would be barred from holding a driving licence under section 92 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 on the grounds of your medical fitness – other than on the ground of persistent misuse of drugs or alcohol.

The list of medical conditions under which a person may be refused a driving licence is extensive. Further information can be found at – [Check if a health condition affects your driving: Overview - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

- Before applying under this category, you should seek medical advice.
- It is not a requirement that you must have applied for a licence.

**Note** - You can be fined up to £1,000 if you do not tell DVLA about a medical condition that affects your driving. You may be prosecuted if you're involved in an accident as a result.

### Evidence you could provide:

Please send us medical evidence confirming that you would be barred from holding a driving licence under section 92 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 on the grounds of your medical fitness – other than on the ground of persistent misuse of drugs or alcohol.

### Notes on providing evidence to support your application:

Documents supplied must:

- be relevant to the eligibility criteria you are applying under
- show your name and address

For example:

- confirmation from DVLA that you have surrendered your licence on medical grounds
- a letter of diagnosis
- evidence of specialist consultations etc.
- letters from other professionals involved with you

You can now get access to your medical records by visiting [www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/about-the-nhs/how-to-get-your-medical-records/](http://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/about-the-nhs/how-to-get-your-medical-records/)

Please do not ask your GP to write a letter on your behalf. We will not be able to consider this. We cannot accept appointment letters as proof, please do not send these.

Other relevant advice:

## **Epilepsy**

You may be permitted to hold a driving licence if you have epilepsy, it will depend on the type and frequency of seizures.

You must tell DVLA if you've had any epileptic attacks, seizures, fits or blackouts. You must stop driving straight away.

If you have epilepsy we would require information regarding your last daytime seizure.

Please be advised the following will not qualify for a freedom pass:

- if you have not had a daytime seizure in the last 12 months
- if you have night-time seizures only
- if you have controlled daytime seizures
- if your epilepsy is triggered by drugs/alcohol

More information on epilepsy and driving can be found here - <https://www.gov.uk/epilepsy-and-driving>

## **Severe Mental Illness**

Some mental health conditions can prevent you from holding a driving licence. More information can be found here - <https://www.rethink.org/advice-and-information/rights-restrictions/rights-and-restrictions/driving-and-mental-illness/>

Examples may include (but are not limited to):

- dementia (or any organic brain syndrome)
- behaviour disorders – including post head injury syndrome and non-epileptic seizure disorder
- personality disorders.

**Note** – if your severe mental illness is/has been due to misuse of drugs/alcohol you **will not** be eligible under this category.

## **Visual Impairment**

If you are Blind or Partially sighted – please see the separate Fact Sheet for these conditions.

Otherwise, for more information on whether your eyesight could prevent you from obtaining a driving licence, please see here - [Driving eyesight rules - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/Driving-eyesight-rules)

## **Alcohol or Drug abuse**

Guidelines are available to see how alcohol and drug abuse can impact on your ability to hold a licence BUT you may not be eligible for a freedom pass. The guidelines can be found - [Drug or alcohol misuse or dependence: assessing fitness to drive - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/Drug-or-alcohol-misuse-or-dependence-assessing-fitness-to-drive)